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EDITOR'S MISCELLANY



DANGEROUS COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.—At a recent meeting of the State Board of Health of Michigan the members discussed and approved a circular to be issued entitled "Diseases which Householdors are Required to Report." In this circular the State Board of Health declares consumption, pneumonia, cerebro-spinal meningitis, typhoid fever, diphtheria, whooping-cough, measles, scarlet fever, smallpox, glanders, and rabies (hydrophobia) to be dangerous communicable diseases, and therefore "diseases dangerous to the public health" required by law to be reported. This circular sets forth that every case of each of these diseases must be reported to the local health officer by the householder, hotel keeper, boarding-house keeper, or physician. The law is then quoted showing the duty of such persons to so report. The use to be made of such reports is not the same for all diseases, because the manner of spreading and the measures for the restriction are not the same for all diseases. Houses infected with some diseases are to be placarded, with others not. Persons having some of the diseases are to be isolated. Relative to each of those diseases, such facts are published by the State Board of Health, and a pamphlet on any one of these diseases, or on all of them, will be sent to any person interested who requests it from the office of the board at Lansing.

WHILE the city of Boston has been considering the building of a one hundred and fifty thousand dollar hospital for the treatment of tubercular diseases, many families have not waited for a settlement of the question, but have brought into requisition their own roof-tops as a means to a cure of cases of this nature. Not many outside of the medical profession have known of this, but as a matter of interest it may be said that many tenement and private dwelling-house roofs in Roxbury, Dorchester, West Roxbury, South Boston, and in the North and South Ends are now being used, winter as well as summer, for the "open air" remedy for consumption.

SCHOOL WORK.—"A deep impression has been made upon people of the East Side, New York, by the activities of the Health Department. Dr. Lederle has been diligent in excluding from the schools children afflicted with contagious diseases; but he has established a corps of trained nurses, who, when a child is excluded, go at once to the home and tell the parents how to treat the disease. These nurses go back to these homes every few days, and as a result the children return to school usually in a very short time. In the summer these nurses give free treatment to the sick infants of the tenements. Dr. Lederle has established a branch of the Health Department on the lower East Side where poor people can get immediate treatment. He organized a summer corps of physicians to give special service to children suffering from peculiar summer complaints. He established a trachoma hospital, and last year fifty thousand children received free treatment there for this disease,—treatment they never received under Tammany,—and without which many of them were sure to go blind. These measures come into such intimate contact with the people that they will certainly attract votes for an administration providing them."